



## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

3 MARCH 2017

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### (U) CALIFORNIA

#### (U) Los Angeles – Gang Member Charged With Killing Police Officer

(U) A California gang member who had recently been released from jail has been charged with killing a police officer and his own cousin. Michael Mejia, 26, was charged Wednesday with murder with special circumstances, making him eligible for the death penalty. He's also charged with attempted murder, carjacking and possession of a firearm by a felon. Prosecutors say Mejia shot and killed his cousin in East Los Angeles on 20 February, took his car and later crashed it into two other vehicles in neighboring Whittier. When police arrived, prosecutors say Mejia pulled a gun. Whittier Officer Keith Boyer was killed, and Officer Patrick Hazell and Mejia were wounded in the shootout.

SOURCE: 2 March 2017, [CBS News](#)

### (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) District of Columbia – US Drugs Czar Stresses Need to Work with Mexico

(U) Washington - The head of counter-narcotics at the US State Department yesterday stated the importance of working with Mexico in countering the flow of killer drugs. William Brownfield estimated that more than 90 percent of the heroin consumed in the United States currently comes from Mexico, along with most of the notorious killer drug fentanyl. Brownfield argued that the United States was better able to deal with the problem today than a decade or two ago because of international cooperation, including joint operations and intelligence sharing with Mexico.

SOURCE: 2 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

#### (U) New York – MS-13 Gang Indicted in Students' Deaths

(U) Long Island– More than a dozen members of the MS-13 gang were indicted yesterday on seven killings on Long Island spanning three years, including the deaths of several high school students last year. The US Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York said the 13 members of La Mara Salvatrucha, known as MS-13, face offenses including seven murder charges, racketeering, attempted murder, assault, obstruction of justice and arson in the 41-count indictment unsealed in federal court.

SOURCE: 2 March 2017, [CNN](#)

#### (U) New York – Arrest Made in JCC Threats

(U) Manhattan - An arrest was made in connection with the bomb threat called into the national headquarters of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) in February. Juan Thompson, 31, was arrested in St. Louis, Missouri. He is accused of making at least eight of the threats against Jewish Community Centers (JCCs). Investigators worked to determine the suspect's role in recent threats against Jewish organizations across the country since January. Federal officials took him into custody and he will appear in federal court in Lower Manhattan. The arrest comes as the FBI was growing increasingly worried about the incidents. Agents feared the volume could be lulling people and lead people to start ignoring the threats and stop evacuating facilities.

SOURCE: 3 March 2017, [WABC](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL**

**(U) Germany – Two Syrian Extremist Suspects Arrested**

(U) Berlin – German authorities have arrested two Syrians suspected of being members of the extremist group Nusra Front. The federal prosecutor's office said yesterday that 35-year-old Abdalfatah H.A. is suspected of war crimes over the killing of 36 Syrian government employees by his unit in March 2013. The other suspect, 26-year-old Abdulrahman A.A., belonged to the same combat unit as Abdalfatah H.A. and both participated in an armed battle against Syrian government troops, including taking over a big arms depot in November 2013.

SOURCE: 2 March 2017, [ABC News](#)

**(U) Sweden – Draft to Return Amid Security Worries and Soldier Shortage**

(U) Stockholm – Sweden is to reintroduce military draft next year due to difficulties filling the ranks on a voluntary basis at a time of increased security concerns. Non-aligned Sweden ended compulsory military service in 2010 but military activity in the Baltic region has increased since then, prompting Sweden to step up its military preparedness. The reintroduction of the draft will cover men and women born in 1999 or later, though only a small minority will be selected to serve. Military service was the norm for young Swedish men during the Cold War but the draft was gradually watered down after the collapse of the Soviet Union as war in the region looked increasingly unlikely. But a resurgent Russia and tensions over the conflict in Ukraine have left politicians on both sides of the aisle looking to boost military capability and address the lack of talent keen on making a career as a professional soldier.

SOURCE: 2 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

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